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☐ 1: FEBS Lett 2002 Dec 18;532(3):279-82

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Introduction of a Na⁺/H⁺ antiporter gene from *Atriplex gmelini* confers salt tolerance to rice.

Ohta M, Hayashi Y, Nakashima A, Hamada A, Tanaka A, Nakamura T, Hayakawa T.

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Plantech Research Institute, 1000 Kamoshida-cho, Aoba-ku, Yokohama, 227-0033, Kanagawa, Japan.

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We engineered a salt-sensitive rice cultivar (*Oryza sativa* cv. Kinuhikari) to express a vacuolar-type Na⁺/H⁺ antiporter gene from a halophytic plant, *Atriplex gmelini* (AgNHX1). The activity of the vacuolar-type Na⁺/H⁺ antiporter in the transgenic rice plants was eight-fold higher than that in wild-type rice plants. Salt tolerance assays followed by non-stress treatments showed that the transgenic plants overexpressing AgNHX1 could survive under conditions of 300 mM NaCl for 3 days while the wild-type rice plants could not. These results indicate that overexpression of the Na⁺/H⁺ antiporter gene in rice plants significantly improves their salt tolerance.

PMID: 12482579 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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Salt tolerance conferred by overexpression of a vacuolar Na⁺/H⁺ antiport in Arabidopsis.

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Apse MP, Aharon GS, Snedden WA, Blumwald E.

Department of Botany, University of Toronto, 25 Willcocks Street, Toronto, Ontario M5S 3B2, Canada.

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Agricultural productivity is severely affected by soil salinity. One possible mechanism by which plants could survive salt stress is to compartmentalize sodium ions away from the cytosol. Overexpression of a vacuolar Na⁺/H⁺ antiport from *Arabidopsis thaliana* in *Arabidopsis* plants promotes sustained growth and development in soil watered with up to 200 millimolar sodium chloride. This salinity tolerance was correlated with higher-than-normal levels of AtNHX1 transcripts, protein, and vacuolar Na⁺/H⁺ (sodium/proton) antiport activity. These results demonstrate the feasibility of engineering salt tolerance in plants.

PMID: 10455050 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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